

Message Text

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43

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 OMB-01

ACDA-07 OES-06 MC-02 TRSE-00 DODE-00 EB-07 COME-00

/057 W

----- 120277

R 151000Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1251

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMCONSUL NICE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MARSEILLE 396

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MASS FR SA

SUBJECT: FRENCH TANKS FOR SAUDI ARABIA TRANSIT PORT OF MARSEILLE

1. WIDE PUBLICITY WAS GIVEN SEPTEMBER 14 BY TONAL PRESS
TO SHIPMENT OF 22 AMX 30 TANKS DUE TO LEAVE SAME DAY FOR SAUDI
ARABIA. BRIEF NEWS ITEM MENTIONED TANKS AND ONE HUNDRED TONS
OF MATERIEL "SHELLS ETC." BEING SHIPPED ABOARD FREIGHTER "LA DURANCE
"

(SUDCARGOS) AND ADDED THAT CURRENT SHIPMENT BRINGS TOTAL
OF

TANKS TO "ALMOST 250" THAT HAVE TRANSITED MARSEILLE FOR THE
MIDDLE EAST. PHOTOS ILLUSTRATING ARTICLE PINPOINTED PORT
LOCATION OF TANKS AWAITING SHIPMENT.

A2. INFORMAL CONVERSATION WITH VETERAN OFFICER IN BRITISH
CONGEN CONFIRMS THIS MARKS FIRST PUBLICITY OF THIS KIND ON ARMS
SHIPMENTS. IT IS ALL THE MORE UNUSUAL WHEN LAST PARA OF NEWS
ITEM READS, "AS SOON AS LANDED (IN SAUDI ARABIA) THEY ARE STORED
NEAR THE PORT WHILE AWAITING TO BE PUT INTO SERVICE."

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SIMPSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)
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Draft Date: 15 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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